

Message Text

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60

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CPR-01 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 /041 R

DRAFT3D BY EUR/EE:WSSHEPARD/FDR

APPROVED BY EUR/EE:NGANDREWS

S/CPR:JGUILBAULT (SUBST)

----- 112401

P 202218Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 117910

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, HU

SUBJECT: PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS-ESZTERGALYOS

1. KOVACS TELLS US THAT HE HAS NOW HEARD OFFICIALLY THAT AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE ESZTERGALYOS WILL ARRIVE AT DULLES MAY 29 VIA AF 051 FROM PARIS. ANDREWS, SHEPARD AND PROTOCOL OFFICER WILL MEET.

2. KOVACS HAS ALSO CONFIRMED EMBASSY'S BELIEF THAT THERE WILL BE FOREIGN POLICY MEETING IN BUDAPEST IN JULY. HE VOLUNTEERED IN THIS CONNECTION THAT HUNGARIAN AMBASSADORS ARE SUMMONED HOME FOR MEETING AS GROUP USUALLY EVERY TWO YEARS. THIS YEAR'S MEETING, HE SAID, SHOULD HAVE BEEN HELD LAST YEAR BUT WAS POSTPONED UNTIL AFTER CONCLUSION OF PARTY CONGRESS. HE IMPLIED THAT GENERAL FOREIGN POLICY REVIEW IN LIGHT OF PARTY CONGRESS WAS INVOLVED.

3. ON TIMING OF CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION, CURRENT WHITE HOUSE PRACTICE IS TO HAVE THREE AMBASSADORS AS A MINIMUM

FOR CEREMONY. AT THE END OF APRIL, A CEREMONY (FOR FOUR)

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CLEARED THE WAITING LIST. ESZTERGALYOS WILL BE THE FIRST

MAN ON THE NEW LIST. AT PRESENT, ONE OTHER AMBASSADOR-
DESIGNATE IS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE TOWARDS THE
END OF JUNE. WE ARE PREPARED TO RECOMMEND, IF NECESSARY,
A "SHORT LIST", BUT THIS HAS NOT YET HAPPENED DURING
PRESENT ADMINISTRATION. THIS ARGUMENT CAN BEST BE MADE
WHEN SECOND AMBASSADOR IS IN PLACE. IN SUM, WE WILL DO
OUR BEST, BUT PROGNOSIS IS NOT CERTAIN THAT CEREMONY WILL
TAKE PLACE PRIOR TO ESZTERGALYOS' JULY CONSULTATIONS. INGERSOLL

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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